

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF FAMILY TREE CLINIC

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2021

Ms. McCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the staff, volunteers and patients of Family Tree Clinic on its 50th anniversary of service to the Saint Paul and Minneapolis communities. As a nonprofit community clinic in the Twin Cities metropolitan area, Family Tree provides education and high-quality, affordable, and affirming health care centered on each person they serve.

With its deep roots in Saint Paul, Family Tree began in 1971 when community volunteers and health care workers came together to fill a gap in access to reproductive health care that was brought to light by a neighborhood needs assessment. Family Tree responded by offering non-judgmental and patient-centered care, regardless of an individual's ability to pay. Early on, Family Tree mostly served students from five nearby colleges. Over the years, it has grown to reach people throughout the Upper Midwest.

Family Tree is a leading reproductive and sexual health clinic that has strengthened its services to vulnerable and marginalized populations throughout its five decades of service. It operates the Minnesota Family Planning and STD Hotline, which was established by the Minnesota Department of Health in 1978. Through the hotline, Family Tree provides reliable and accurate medical information and education across Minnesota. Family Tree's health education program in schools reaches more than 15,000 students and parents each year. In 2004, Family Tree pioneered a new health education program—still the only program like it in the U.S.—that provides free, comprehensive sexual health education and advocacy services to 800 people each year in Minnesota who are Deaf, DeafBlind, DeafDisabled, Hard of Hearing, and LateDeafened. Its creation of the LGBTQ Health Access Initiative in 2009 increased Family Tree's percentage of patients who are LGBTQ from 9 percent to 60 percent. Family Tree also partners with the University of Minnesota to train medical students in LGBTQ-inclusive health care services.

Today, Family Tree has more than 35 staff members and 50 volunteers who reach over 22,000 people per year through its many programs and services. With the growth of the clinic and increased demand for comprehensive health care, Family Tree Clinic kicked off its next 50 years of service by recently moving into a new clinic and education center in Minneapolis. The new building provides space for

more exam rooms and staff, continued expansion of community programs, the addition of telehealth capabilities, and the potential to serve an additional 10,000 patients each year.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring Family Tree Clinic's caring and steadfast staff and volunteers—as well of the patients they serve—on the 50th anniversary of the clinic's success at cultivating a healthy community through comprehensive sexual health care and education.

LIFE AND LEGACY OF HON. GREG HOBBS**HON. JOE NEGUSE**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2021

Mr. NEGUSE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember the life of Justice Greg Hobbs who we lost on Monday, November 29th.

As a former Supreme Court Justice in Colorado, Justice Hobbs was a mentor to countless Coloradans, our state's preeminent authority on water law and relied on by many for his expertise and leadership.

He was caring and compassionate, a friend to many and a vibrant member of our community.

The impact of his work will continue to be felt throughout the state of Colorado for years to come, and his legacy will not soon be forgotten.

My thoughts and prayers are with Emily, Bonnie and Dan and all of Justice Hobbs family and friends, and the community that loved him.

This week and in the weeks to come we will mourn his passing, remember his life and be inspired by his wisdom and leadership.

RECOGNIZING THE ARCHER CENTER'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY**HON. VAN TAYLOR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2021

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, I rise along with my colleague, Rep. COLIN ALLRED, to recognize the Archer Center at The University of Texas System and The University of Texas at Dallas on the occasion of its 20th anniversary.

In 2001, Bill Archer of Houston, Texas, retired from the United States House of Representatives (TX-07) where he had served for 30 years, including a six-year tenure as Chairman of the U.S. House Ways and Means

Committee. Immediately upon his retirement, Congressman Archer and his long-time chief of staff, Don Carlson, established the Archer Center and the Bill Archer Fellowship Program. The University of Texas at Dallas, which is in our congressional districts, is the academic home for the Archer Center.

As the Washington, D.C., campus of The University of Texas System, the Archer Center provides talented undergraduate, graduate, and medical students from across the U.T. System's thirteen academic and health institutions with the opportunity to live, learn, and intern in the nation's capital.

The Archer Fellowship Program is a unique academic and experiential learning program that introduces highly accomplished students from the State of Texas to the federal policy-making process. Archer Fellows spend a transformative semester interning for a variety of public and private organizations including the White House, Congress, and the U.S. Supreme Court. More than 1,500 students have participated in the Archer Center's semester-long and summer programs in the past two decades. Over the years and at present, we have each hosted Archer Fellows in our offices. We have even hired Archer Fellow alumni to join our official staffs.

The Archer Fellowship continues to elevate the reputation of the U.T. System and its students. It has served as a springboard for graduate and professional careers at prestigious universities and medical centers such as Harvard University, Yale University, and the University of Oxford, as well as virtually every U.T. institution. The program has also enabled students to enter high-impact careers in the public and private sector. Archer Fellows have been awarded many distinguished scholarships, including the Harry S. Truman Scholarship, the Marshall Scholarship, the Rhodes Scholarship, the Schwarzman Scholarship, and the Fulbright Scholarship.

Today, Archer Fellow alumni continue Congressman Archer's legacy of public service by working in all branches of state, federal, and local government, and by serving in the military. These young people represent the very best of North Texas and there is no doubt some future members of Congress among them.

As the Archer Center celebrates its twentieth anniversary, we wish to express our gratitude to Congressman Archer and Don Carlson for their vision and enduring support for Texas students. The Center's growth and continued success is fueled by the dedication of the U.T. System leadership, including Chancellor J.B. Milliken, the Board of Regents, and U.T. Dallas President Richard Benson, and steadfast supporters and alumni of the Archer Center.

We send our best wishes to the Archer Center on this important milestone.